

Communication Merit Badge Pre-work

Communications is a 4 hour class. Scouts should bring a snack and plenty of water. Please, no red liquids.

What to bring:

- Blue card, pen, and pencil
- Appropriate clothing, including close-toed shoes
- Snack and water
- Pre work

Pre work:

1. (Requirement 4.) Interview a person you know, like, or respect because of his or her position, talent, career, or life experiences. Listen actively and take notes.
Use this information to prepare a formal introduction as if they were a guest speaker at an event. Highlight their experiences, education, and important qualities.
2. (Requirement 5.) Attend a public meeting (city council, school board, debate) approved by your counselor where several points of view are given on a single issue. Practice active listening skills and take careful notes of each point of view.
Report to your counselor the different points of view that were expressed.
***This may overlap with a citizenship in the community requirement. We will accept the same meeting for both.**
3. (Requirement 7.) Do **ONE** of the following:
 - a. Write to the editor of a magazine or your local newspaper to express your opinion or share information on any subject you choose. Send your message by fax, email or regular mail.
Provide a copy for your counselor to review.
 - b. Create a web page or blog of special interest to you (for instance, your troop or crew, a hobby, or a sport). Include at least three articles or entries and one photograph or illustration, and one link to some other Web page or blog that would be helpful to someone who visits the Web page or blog you have created. It is not necessary to post your Web page or blog to the Internet, but if you decide to do so, you must first share it with your parents and counselor and get their permission.
Provide a copy for your counselor to review.
 - c. Use desktop publishing to produce a newsletter, brochure, flier or other printed material for your scout troop, class at school, or other group. Include at least one article

and one photograph or illustration.

Provide a copy for your counselor to review.

4. (Requirement 8.) Plan a troop or crew court of honor, campfire program, or an interfaith worship service. Have the patrol leaders' council approve it, then write the script and prepare the program. Serve as master of ceremonies.

Provide a copy of the script and other evidence, such as photos or an outline, for your counselor to review. If your event has not yet occurred, please provide the date that it will occur.

5. You will also be assigned a debate topic in an email 2 weeks prior to the badge. You will research and provide 3 points of discussion for your assigned topic.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Val Thibeault at valerie.thibeault@fairfaxcounty.gov, or call (703) 941-1065.

*For meeting options, search the following:

Board of Supervisors held at the Fairfax County Government Center:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/meetings/>

Fairfax County School Board held at Luther Jackson Middle School

<http://www.fcps.edu/schlbd/meetings/meetings.shtml>

Park Authority Board held at the Herrity Building, Fairfax:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/Calendar/ShowCalendar.aspx?C=1&keyword=park+authority&searchfra>

Environmental Quality Advisory Council held at Hidden Oaks Nature Center:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/eqac/meetinginfo.htm>

Resources for Requirement 8:

To plan a Boy Scout Campfire:

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33696.pdf>

To plan a Boy Scout Court of Honor:

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/Ceremonies.pdf>

To plan an Interfaith Service:

<http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/worksheet08182008.pdf>